



Main Title: Exploration Portable Life Support System (xPLSS)

EVA Technology Workshop 2017

October 17, 2017

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NASA\EC

Agenda



- Architectural Overview
- PLSS Evolution
- Current xPLSS Design Overview
- Product Break-down Structure
- Component Overview
- Development Approach
- Risk Items

PLSS Architecture



Function	Method
Primary pressurization	High pressure gaseous oxygen with regulation
Ventilation Circulation	Fan turbomachine
Ventilation Loop CO2 Removal	Amine Pressure Swing Adsorption Swingbed
Ventilation Loop H2O Removal	Amine Pressure Swing Adsorption Swingbed
Trace Contaminant Control	Activated charcoal with phosphoric acid
Crew waste heat rejection	Liquid cooling and ventilation garment with cooling water circulation and latent heat rejection
System waste heat rejection	Hollow-fiber membrane evaporator
Short duration - Secondary pressurization, ventilation, CO2/H2O removal, trace contaminant control, and cooling	High pressure gaseous oxygen with regulation and purge valves setting high open loop flow
60 min long duration - Secondary pressurization, ventilation, CO2/H2O removal, trace contaminant control, and cooling	High pressure gaseous oxygen with regulation and purge valves setting low open loop flow Core torso liquid cooling garment with 1/3 size hollow-fiber membrane evaporator

PLSS Evolution/History



COMPLETE ✓

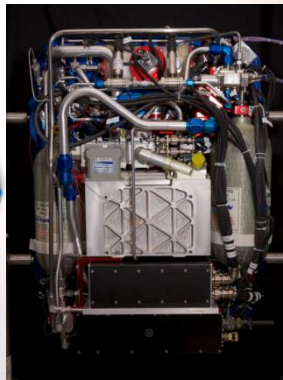
**PLSS 1.0
(Breadboard)**



- Schematic validation with models
- Component pneumo-hydraulic integration
- Prototype: RCA, Fan, SWME, POR, SOR
- Balance COTS/Instruments
- 8 simulated EVA transient profiles
- 397 hrs of full PLSS operation
- 595 hrs of SWME/thermal loop operation

COMPLETE ✓

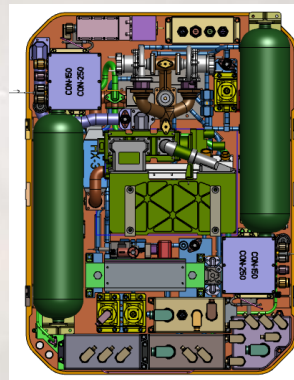
**PLSS 2.0
(Packaged GN2)**



- Packaged lab unit
- 2nd gen prototypes: POR, SOR, RCA, SWME
- 1st gen prototypes: remainder
- Pre-Installation Acceptance (PIA) test against system spec
- 19 psia air human-in-the-loop testing with the Mark III spacesuit (19 x 2hr EVAs)
- 25 EVAs, failure simulations, integration tests

FY18/FY19

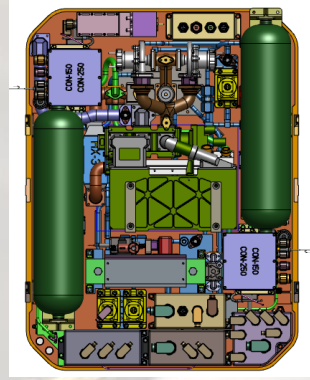
**PLSS 2.5 -302
(DVT)**



- Flight design GN2/Air only
- Pre-Installation Acceptance (PIA) test against system spec
- 25-100 unmanned EVAs in vacuum
- Unmanned thermal vacuum testing
- Pressurized launch vibe testing at ESTA
- SSP EMI Testing
- Static Magnetics Testing

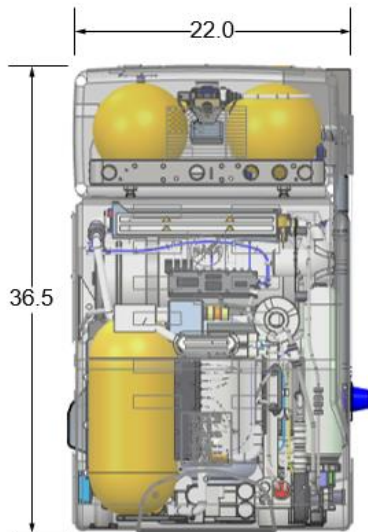
FY22/23

**PLSS 3.0
(Qual)**

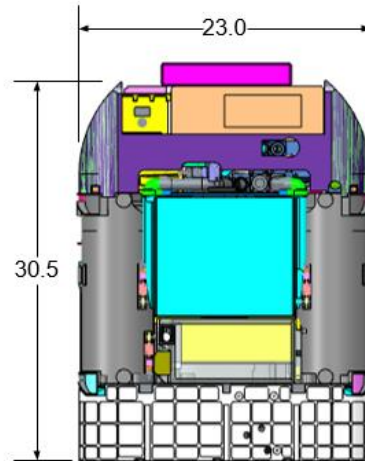


- Flight design GN2, Air, O2
- Pre-Installation Acceptance (PIA)
- Full qualification test
- 25-100 unmanned EVAs in vacuum
- Unmanned thermal vacuum testing
- Pressurized launch vibe testing at ESTA
- SSP EMI Testing
- Static Magnetics Testing
- Manned vacuum integration testing
- Manned thermal vacuum testing

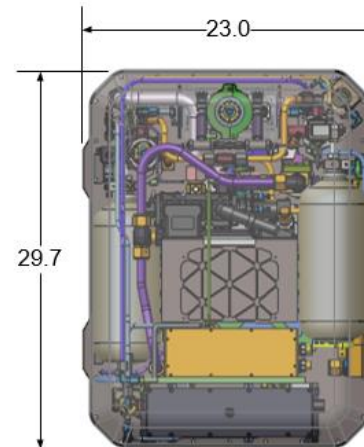
PLSS Outer Mold Line



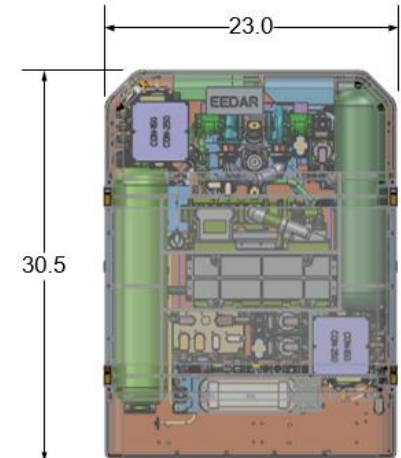
Apollo EMU



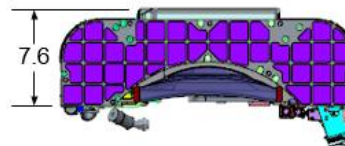
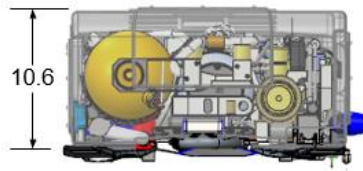
Shuttle/ISS EMU



xEMU PLSS 2.0



**xEMU PLSS 2.5
-301 Live Loads Assy**



Volume

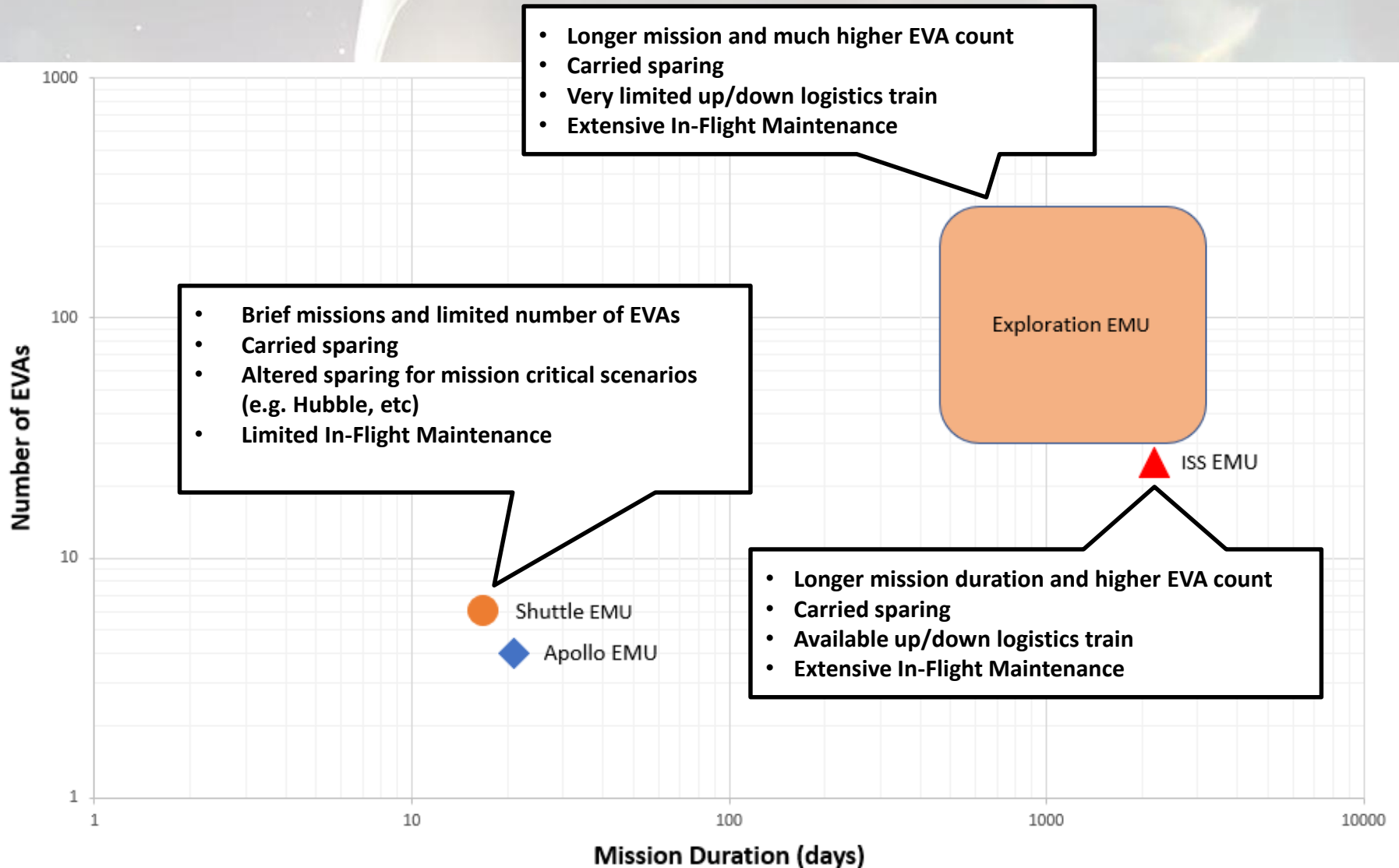
7750 in3

4300 in3

6800 in3

5400 in3

Design Paradigm Shift



Design Paradigm Shift



- xEMU design is not within current experience base or paradigm
 - Higher EVA count on longer duration missions further from ground supplies places a much higher premium on system robustness and inherent redundancy
- Ways to attack this
 - Design in redundancy not seen on Apollo/Shuttle/ISS EMU
 - Current ISS EMU has NCRs for insufficient fault tolerance per current ISS requirements
 - xEMU will also have NCRs but will have fewer as the design will provide more redundancy
 - Rely on commonality to reduce logistical burden and lower development costs
 - Enables fewer spares to cover more potential faults
 - Reduced development cost can be reinvested in more extensive development testing on the ground
 - Include enhanced system health sensing and logic to enable enhanced fault isolation and real-time decision making
 - Classic single unit DVT and Qual with scatter factor and qual margins still assumes a single tolerance stack-up and single process run
 - Examine novel ways in development to test less expensive components to failure examining both margin and failure causes similar to how industry readies a product for market
 - Gain experience with system usage incrementally prior to departing LEO
 - Implementation of the xPLSS Thermal Loop for long term microgravity operational water quality testing as part of the SWME EXPRESS Rack Flight Experiment (SERFE) project provides risk reduction
 - ISS Demonstration of xEMU system is critical as unknown long term issues can be seen during demonstration deployment and addressed before long term deployment
 - ISS EMU water quality is an example of this type of lesson

PLSS Development Philosophy



- Take advantage of the 35+years of operational/failure/lessons learned data from the STS/ISS EMU Program*
 - Corporate knowledge from team experience
 - EMU Requirements Evolutions
 - Assured EMU Availability (AEA) Reports
 - PRACA FIAR summaries
- At the system level, simplify as much as possible
 - Remove components if the function can be achieved with new technologies and fewer components

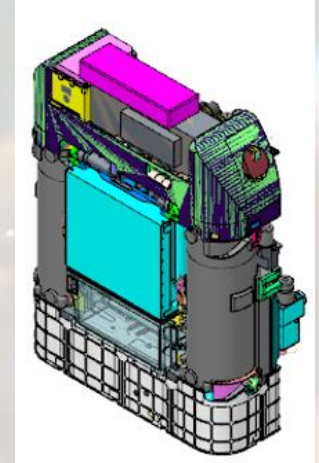
Shuttle/ISS EMU CEI	Description
113E	Primary Pressure Control Module, Feewater Pressure Regulator
120	Dual mode relief valve
123B	Fan/Pump/Separator - Water Separator
125	Pitot Actuated Valve
127/128	Pump inlet filter and check-valve
132A	Feedwater supply pressure sensor, gas side
134	Condensate water relief valve
135	Feedwater relief valve
136	Feedwater pressure regulator
137	Feedwater shut-off valve
142	Feedwater relief valve
143	Feedwater check valve
171/172	Coolant loop isolation valve

Components Removed from ISS EMU to xEMU PLSS 2.5

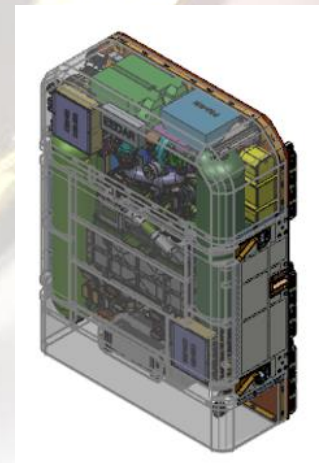
PLSS Development Philosophy



- Use FMEA and analysis of ISS EMU failure history to guide addition of redundancy to PLSS
 - There is insufficient vol/mass available to simply double/triple the component functions in order to provide 3 controls to a catastrophic hazard
 - Examples of added redundancy
 - Cold spare thermal loop pump
 - Cold spare ventilation fan
 - Two-stage regulators (primary and secondary)
 - Dual multi-gas sensors
 - Redundant sensors with fail-over correction algorithms in CWS
 - Multi-string distributed battery
 - Distributed controllers with independent control from the Display and Control Unit
- Margin/redundancy result from new technologies and system choices
 - Examples
 - SWME
 - No break-through due to thermal load, single pass degassing, apparent margin on contamination
 - Separation of F/P/S => centrifugal fan and positive displacement pump
 - Ability to add cold spares
 - Loss of both fans results in low purge mode with full thermal loop cooling and abort
 - Loss of both pumps results in low purge mode with auxiliary thermal loop cooling and abort
 - FSA within ventilation loop
 - Loss of primary supply or I-113E Feedwater Pressure Reg on EMU causes loss of thermal loop function
 - Loss of primary supply on xEMU results in secondary supply operation with full thermal loop capability



ISS EMU



xPLSS 2.5 -301

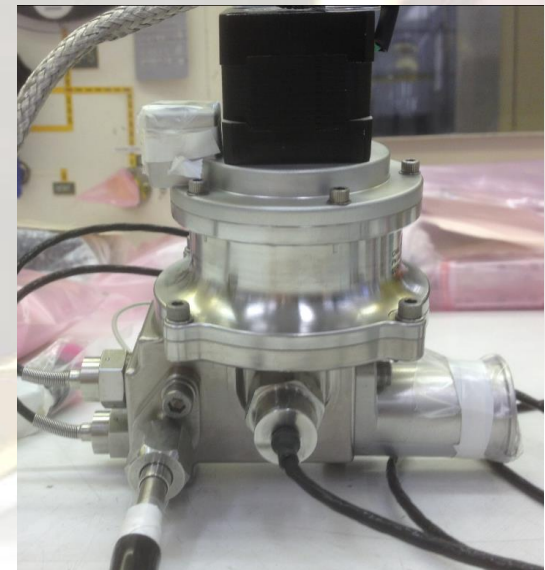
PLSS Development Philosophy



- If the component has operated well for the ISS EMU, then consider reuse
 - Examples
 - Primary O2 tanks from Arde' use cryo-formed 301 that has now been demonstrated in both Apollo and STS/ISS EMU as a long term, highly reliable approach
 - COPVs do not offer significant mass savings at the POV/SOV wetted volumes but do offer stress rupture failure modes as well as modeling/inspection challenges
 - Secondary Oxygen Pack second stage regulator
 - This is the basis for the second stage regulator in the POR/SOR but with extended bellows/actuator to provide increased functionality
- For components that have exhibited reliability issues or cannot meet needed functional requirements, then look for new technology or redesign it address the short comings
- Extensively test and analyze at the component level and sub-system level to mature



ISS EMU SOP Regulator



POR 2.0

PLSS 1.0 Overview



- Table shows initial key prototypes, other components were COTS equivalents of items in the schematics

Accomplished

- 397 hrs of full PLSS operation
- 595 hrs of SWME/thermal loop operation
- Schematic validation with models
- 8 simulated EVA transient profiles
- Steady state profiles
- Failure modes simulations
- Closed loop to open loop purge transitions

Components	Provider
Rapid Cycle Amine 1.0	UTAS
Fan 1.0	UTAS
Spacesuit Water Membrane Evaporator (SWME) Gen 2	EC/JETS
Primary Oxygen Regulator (POR) 1.0	Cobham
Secondary Oxygen Regulator (SOR) 1.0	Cobham

PLSS 1.0



PLSS 2.0 Overview

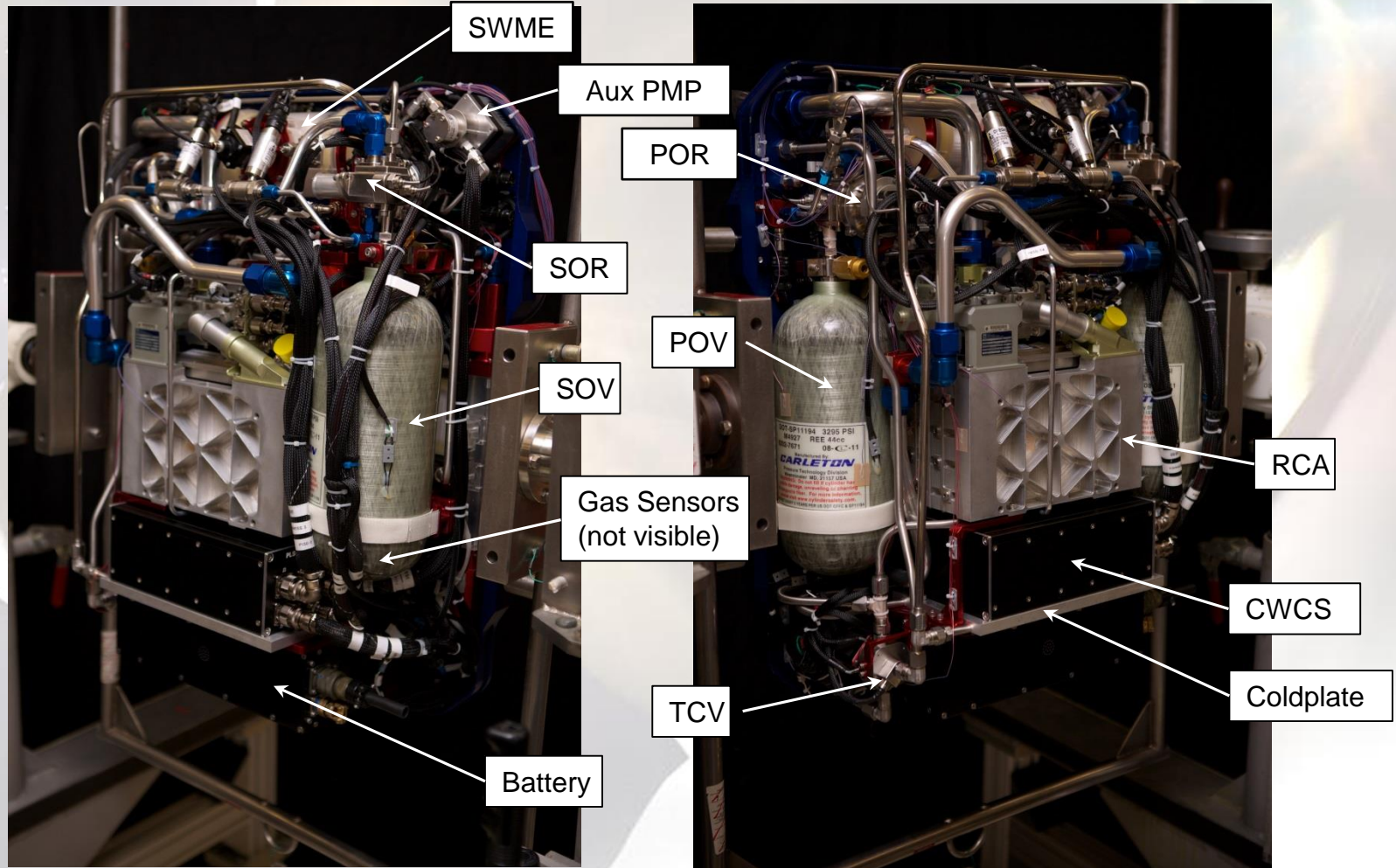


Accomplished

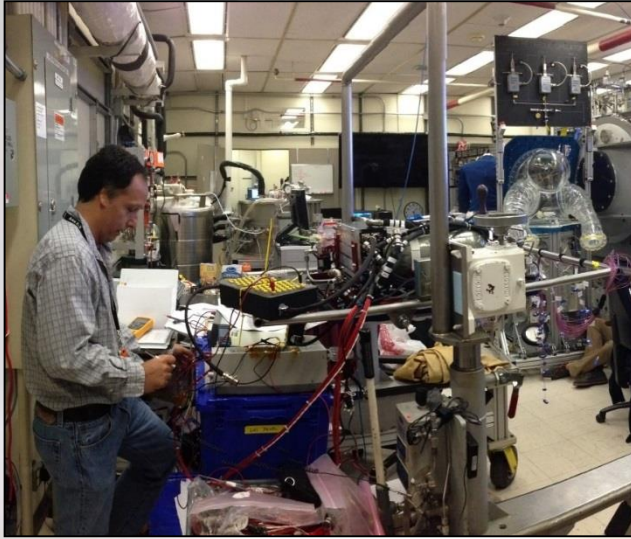
- Packaged lab unit
- Pre-Installation Acceptance (PIA) test against system spec
- 19 psia air human-in-the-loop testing with the Mark III spacesuit (19 x 2hr EVAs)
- 25 EVAs
- Test to failure and/or failure simulations
- Integration tests for ISS/exploration vehicle interfaces

Components	Provider
Rapid Cycle Amine 2.0	UTAS
Fan 1.0	UTAS
Spacesuit Water Membrane Evaporator (SWME) RVP	NASA/JSC
Primary Oxygen Regulator (POR) 2.0	Cobham
Secondary Oxygen Regulator (SOR) 2.0	Cobham
Ventilation Heat Exchanger 1.0	UTAS
Primary Thermal Loop Pump 2.0	UTAS
Multi-gas Sensors (CO ₂ /H ₂ O/O ₂) – APLSS 2.0	Vista Photonics
Mini-Membrane Evaporator (Mini-ME) 1.0	NASA/JSC
Thermal Control Valve 2.0	EC
Vent Flow Sensor and Check Valve 1.0	NASA/JSC
Feedwater Supply Assembly 1.0	OSS
Auxiliary Feedwater Supply Assembly 1.0	OSS
Avionics Coldplate 1.0	OSS/Paragon
EMU LCVG Dual Loop LCVG	ISS EMU OSS
Positive Pressure Relief Valve (PPRV)	OSS/Airlock
Caution Warning and Control System (CWCS)	NASA/GRC

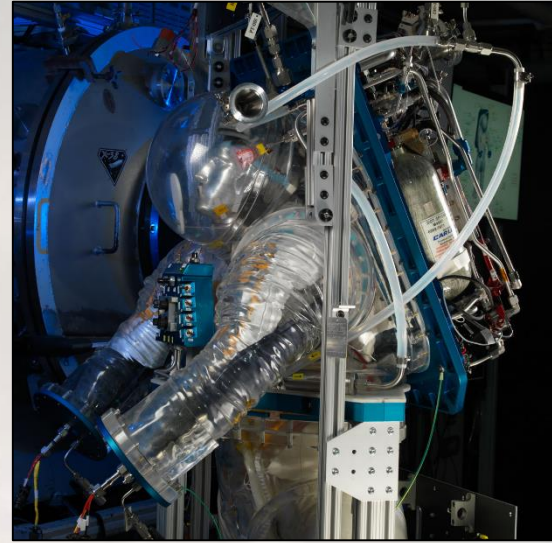
PLSS 2.0



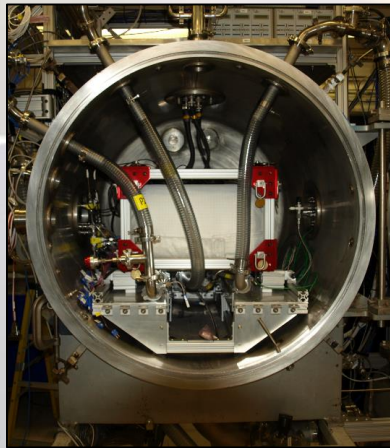
PLSS 2.0



PLSS 2.0 PIA Testing



Simulated On-back Testing
With Space Suit Assembly Simulator (SSAS)



25 EVA Vacuum Chamber Testing



Human-In-The-Loop (HITL) Testing

PLSS 2.5 -301

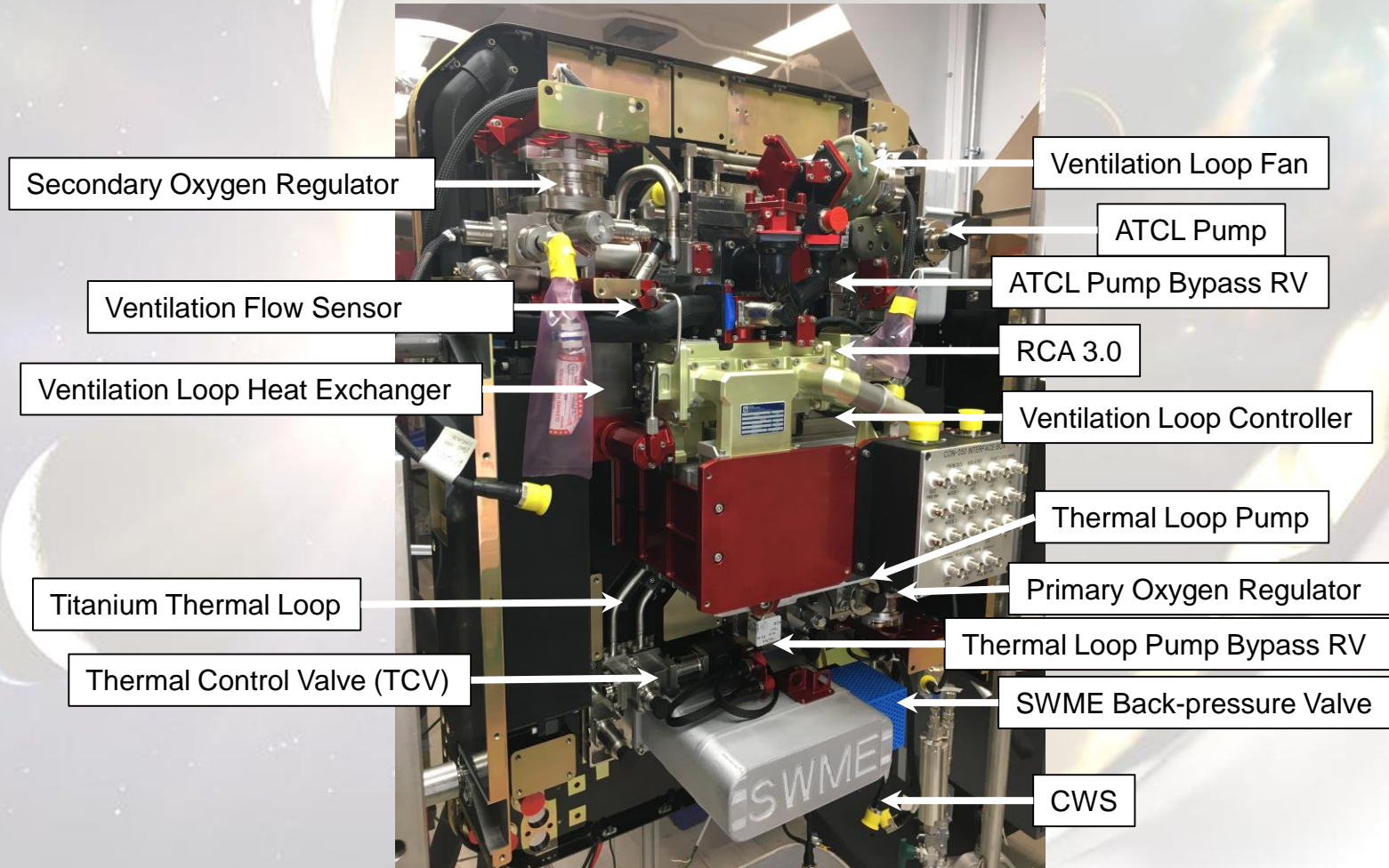


Planning to complete

- Verification of PLSS communications specification
- Integrated electrical testing considering communications, analog inputs, digital inputs, power quality
- Power switching, current limiting
- Simulated electrical interfaces via Power Supply Assembly (PSA) Simulator

Components	Provider
Rapid Cycle Amine 3.0	UTAS
Fan 2.0	UTAS
Spacesuit Water Membrane Evaporator (SWME) Simulator (actuator/sensors)	NASA/JSC
Primary Oxygen Regulator (POR) 3.0	Cobham
Secondary Oxygen Regulator (SOR) 3.0	Cobham
Ventilation Heat Exchanger 2.0	NASA/JSC
Primary/Auxiliary Thermal Loop Pump 3.0	UTAS
Mini-Membrane Evaporator (Mini-ME) 2.0 Simulator (actuator/sensors)	NASA/JSC
Thermal Control Valve 3.0	NASA/JSC
Pressure Transducers	GP:50
CON-450, Thermal Loop Controller	OSS
CON-550, Auxiliary Thermal Loop Controller	NASA/JSC
Caution and Warning System (CWS-650)	NASA/JSC
Primary/Auxiliary/Accessory Battery Assemblies	NASA/GRC NASA/JSC

PLSS 2.5 -301

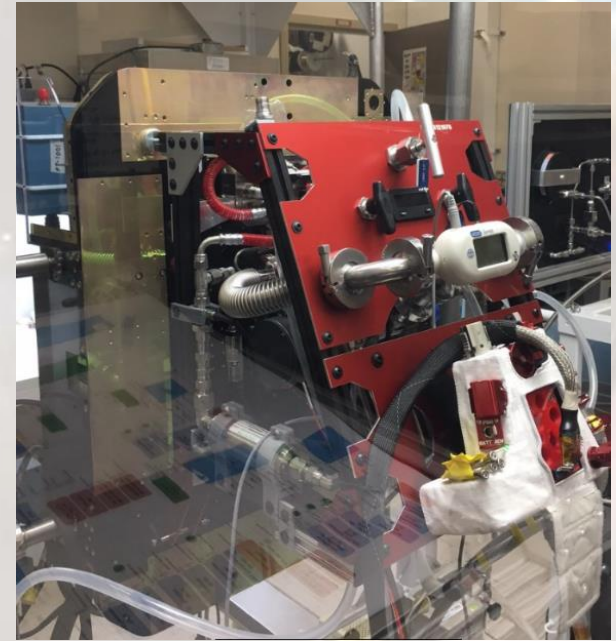


PLSS 2.5 -301 Live Loads Testing

PLSS 2.5 -301



PLSS 2.5 Distributed Battery
Bread-board



PLSS 2.5 Ventilation/Thermal Loop
Jumper Assembly

PLSS 2.5 -302 DVT Unit



Planning to complete

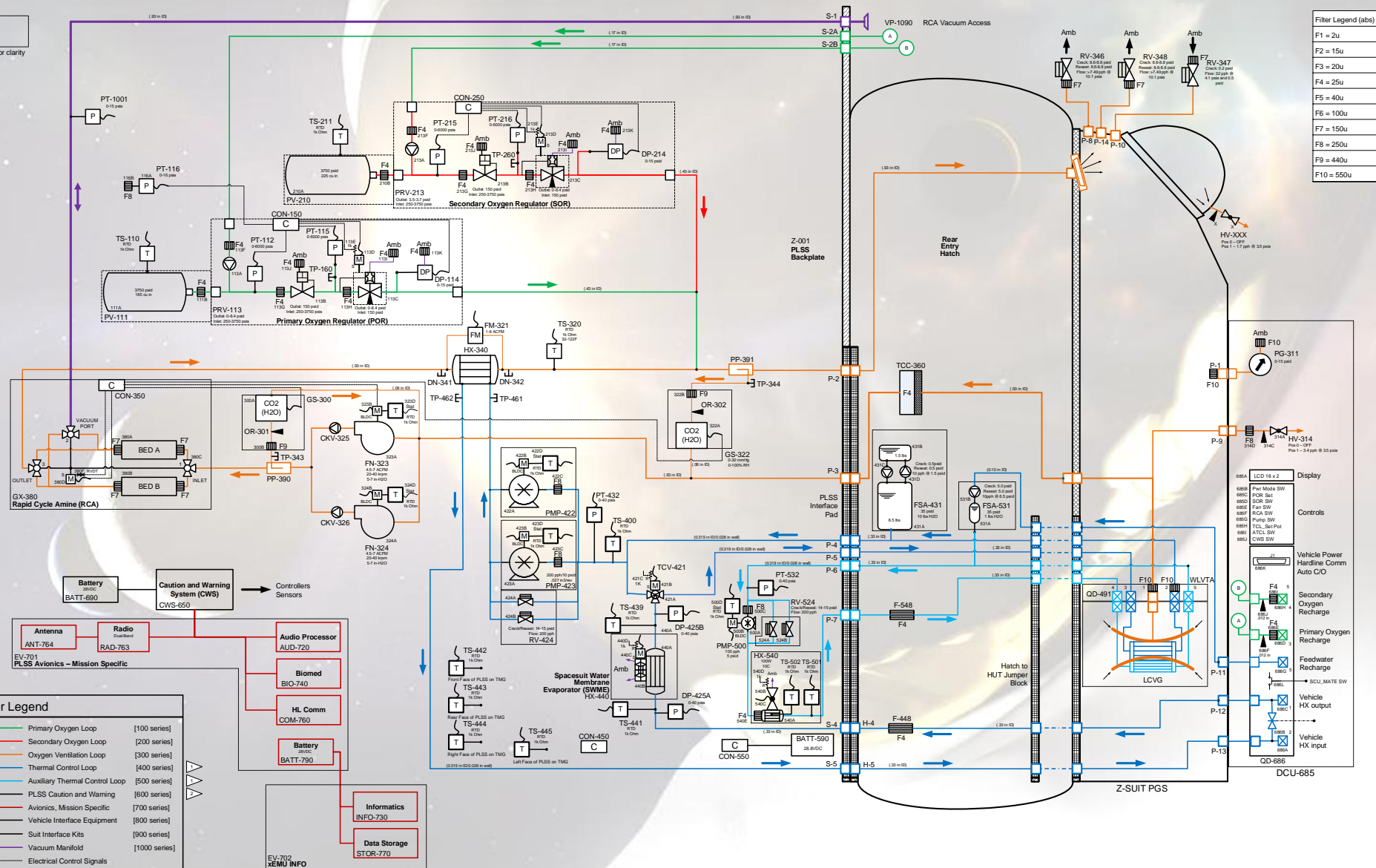
- Integrated electrical loads testing
- Pre Installation Acceptance (PIA)
- 25-100 EVAs in lab neutral thermal environment
- Integration tests for ISS/exploration vehicle interfaces
- PLSS-level thermal vacuum testing
- Conducted/Radiated EMC
- Static magnetic field testing
- Operating vibration testing
- Launch vibration testing
- Failure simulations

Components	Provider
Rapid Cycle Amine 3.0	UTAS
Fan 2.0	UTAS
Spacesuit Water Membrane Evaporator (SWME) 4 th Gen	NASA/JSC
Primary Oxygen Regulator (POR) 3.0	Cobham
Secondary Oxygen Regulator (SOR) 3.0	Cobham
Primary Oxygen and Secondary Oxygen Vessels	Arde'
Ventilation Heat Exchanger 2.0	Creare NASA/JSC
Primary/Auxiliary Thermal Loop Pump 3.0	UTAS
Multi-gas Sensors (CO ₂ /H ₂ O/O ₂) – APLSS 3.0	Vista Photonics JPL UTAS
Mini-Membrane Evaporator (Mini-ME) 2.0	NASA/JSC
Thermal Control Valve 3.0	NASA/JSC
Pressure Transducers	GP:50
CON-150, Primary Oxygen Regulator Controller	OSS
CON-250, Secondary Oxygen Regulator Controller	OSS
CON-350, Ventilation Loop Controller	OSS
CON-450, Thermal Loop Controller	OSS
CON-550, Auxiliary Thermal Loop Controller	NASA/JSC
Caution and Warning System (CWS-650)	NASA/JSC
Primary/Auxiliary/Accessory Battery Assemblies	NASA/JSC

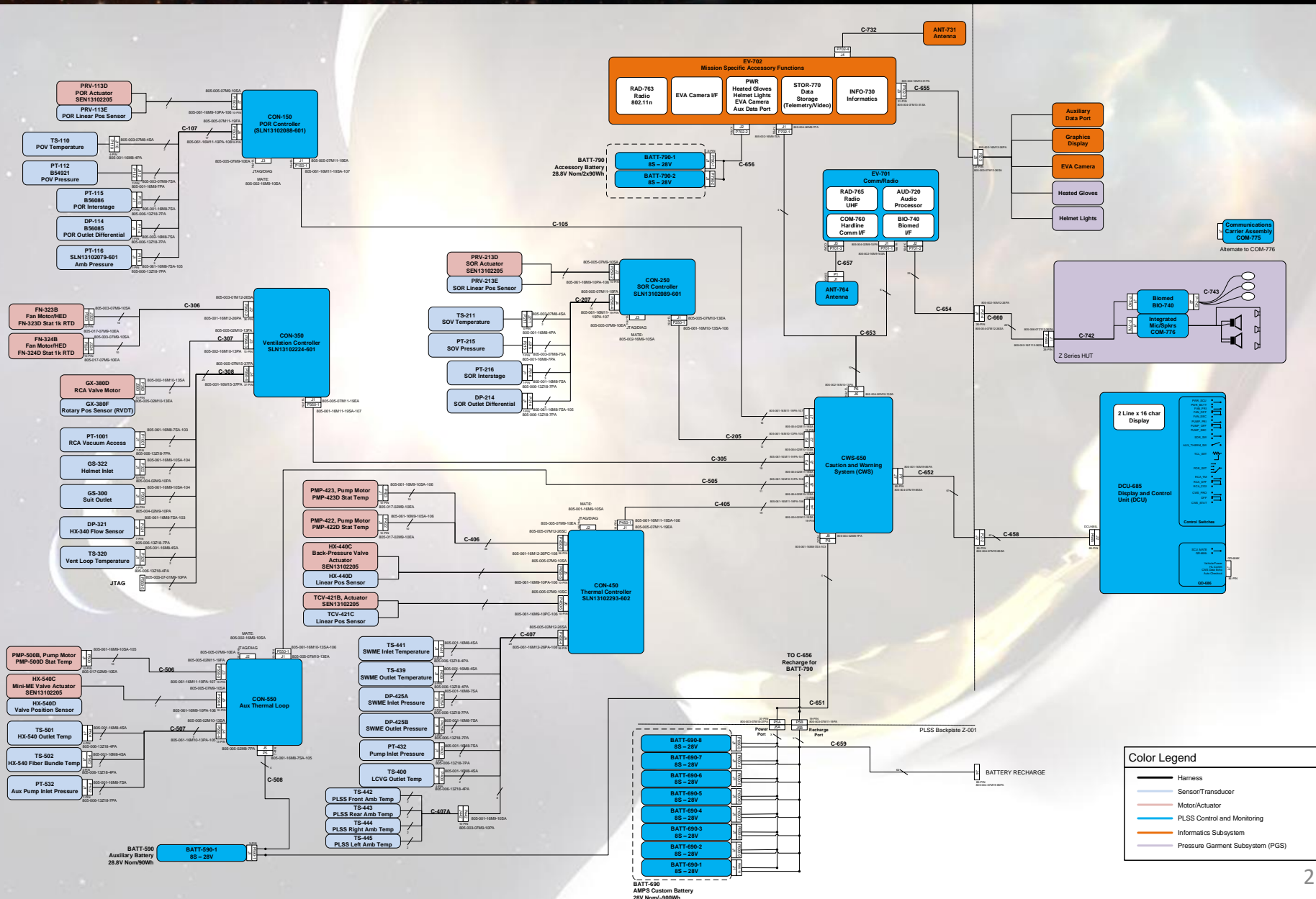
PLSS 2.5 -302 Pneumo-hydraulic



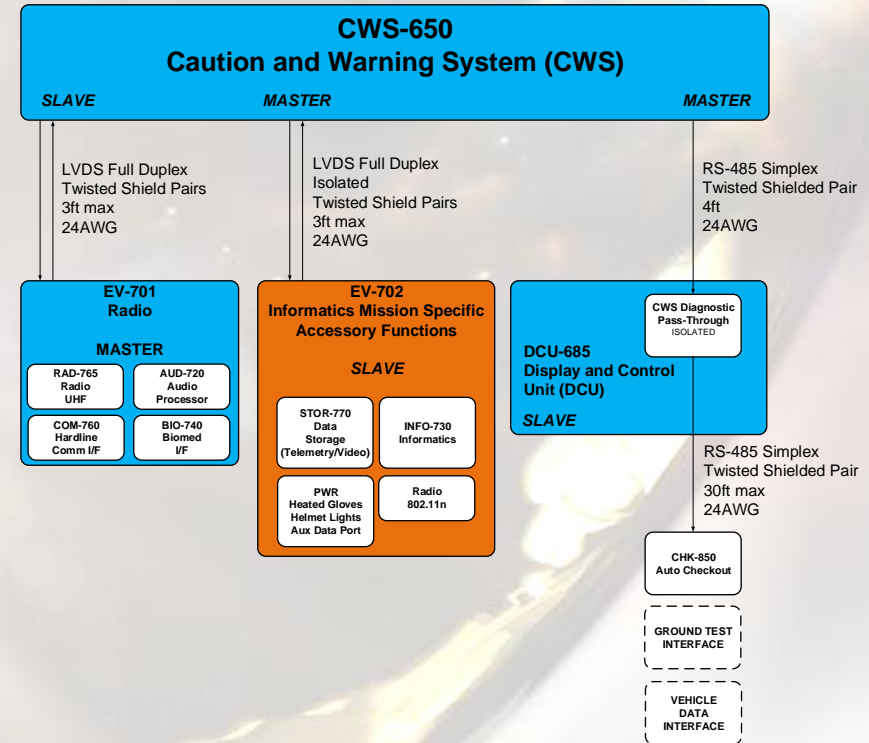
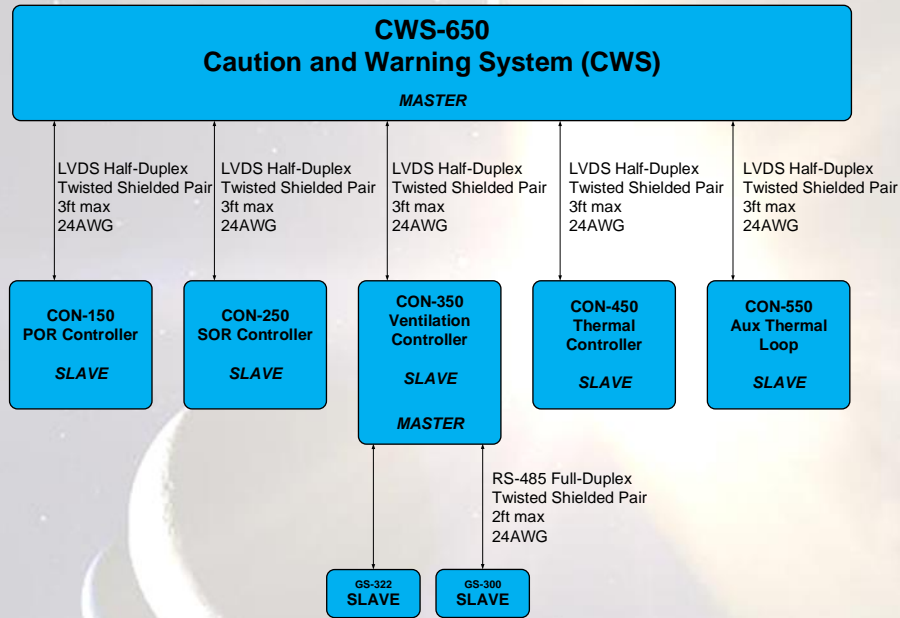
Z-002
PLSS
Shell
Not Shown for clarity



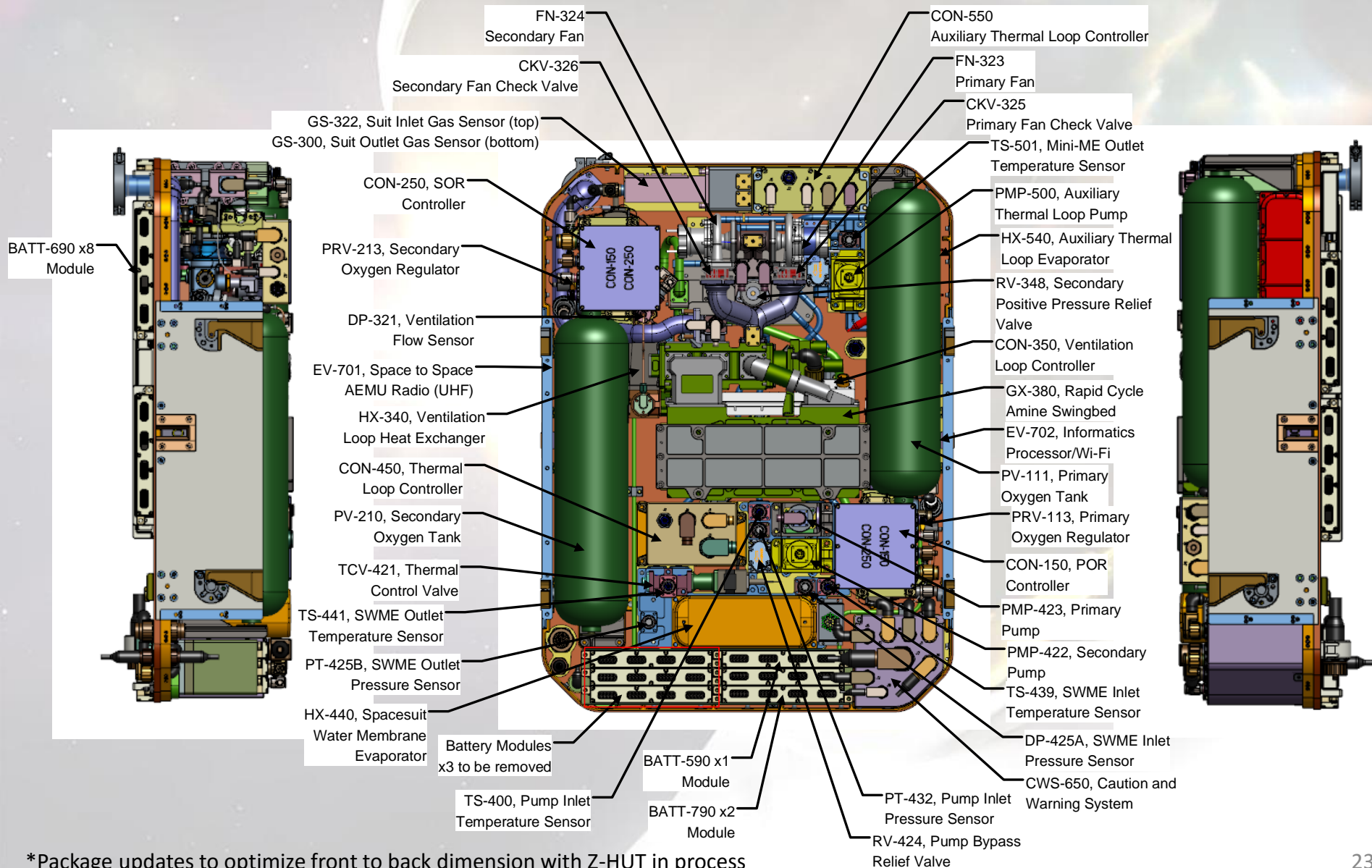
PLSS 2.5 -302 Harness Diagram



PLSS 2.5 -302 Internal Comm Architecture



PLSS 2.5 -302*

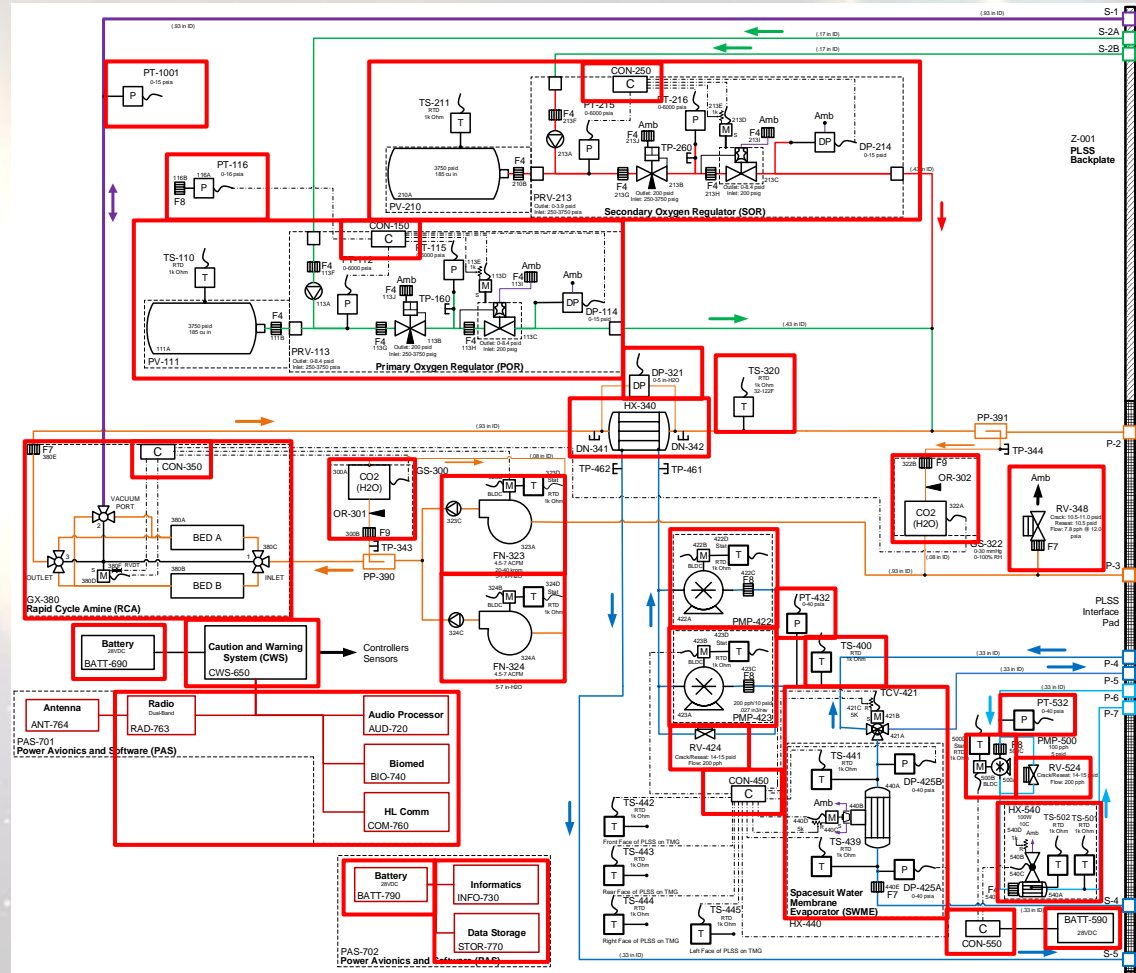


*Package updates to optimize front to back dimension with Z-HUT in process

ORU-able Items



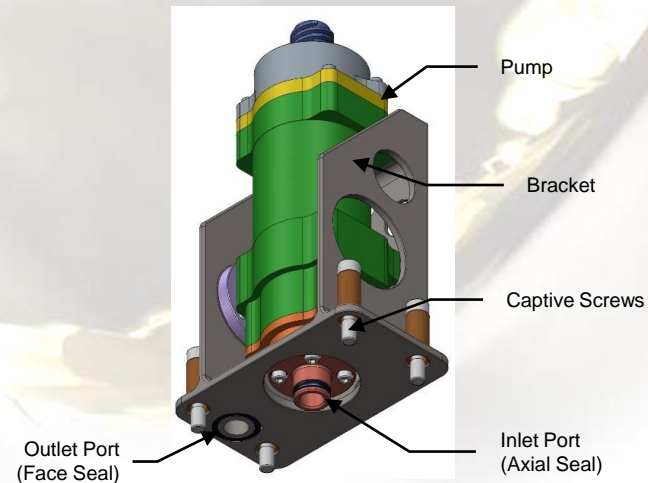
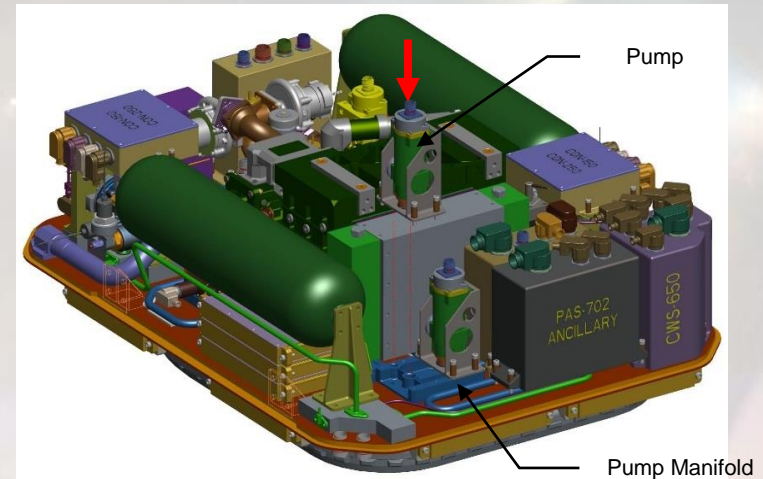
- Of course the goal is to design a system that requires no maintenance and never fails but just in-case...
- ORU-able Items are outlined in red-boxes
- Each of the ORUs includes captive fasteners, pneumatic or hydraulic interfaces with redundant seals, alignment guides, and scoop-proof connectors
- Interfaces between major components involve comm and high level power rail enabling increased modularity for both maintenance and future upgrade



Maintainability/Modularity



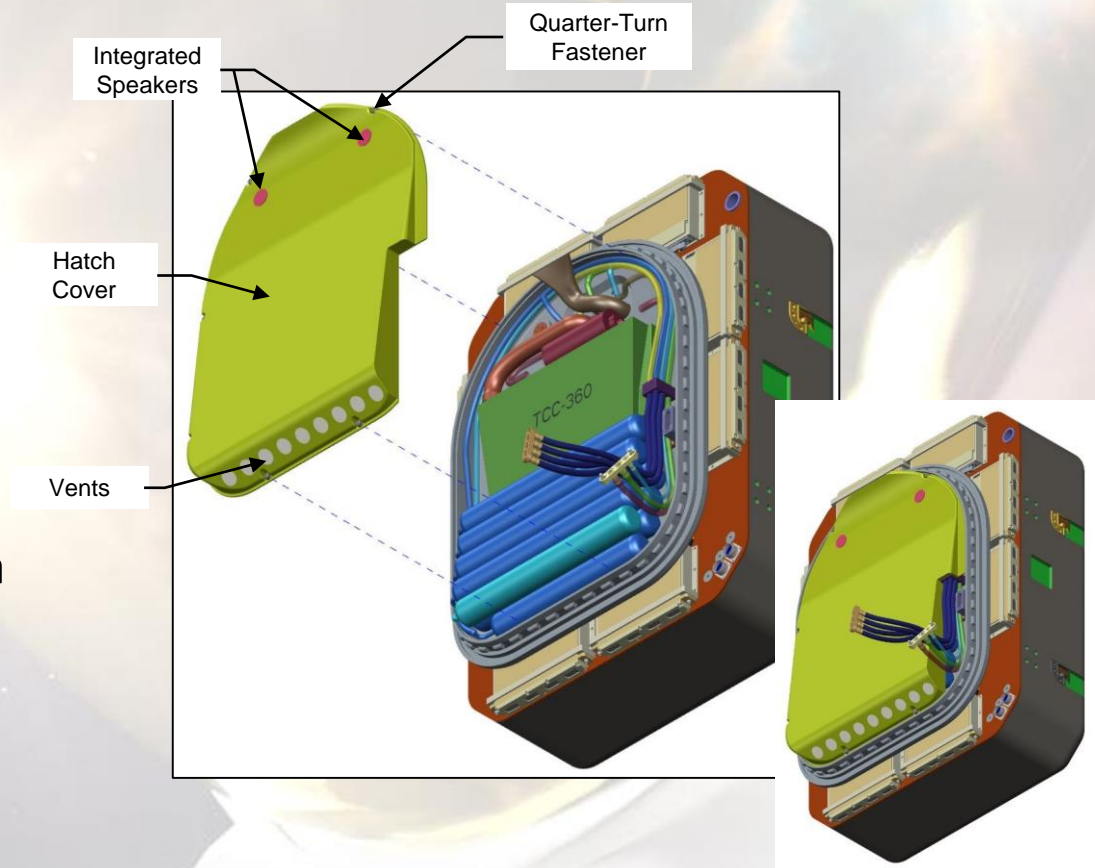
- PLSS 2.5 backplate incorporates embedded hydraulic lines (like a printed circuit board)
- Enables modular packages that mate to flat manifolds with face-seals and captive fasteners
- Electrical harnessing/connectors face normal and outboard from backplate for ease of access
- Nearly all components may be replaced directly without removal of collateral components



PLSS Logistical Items



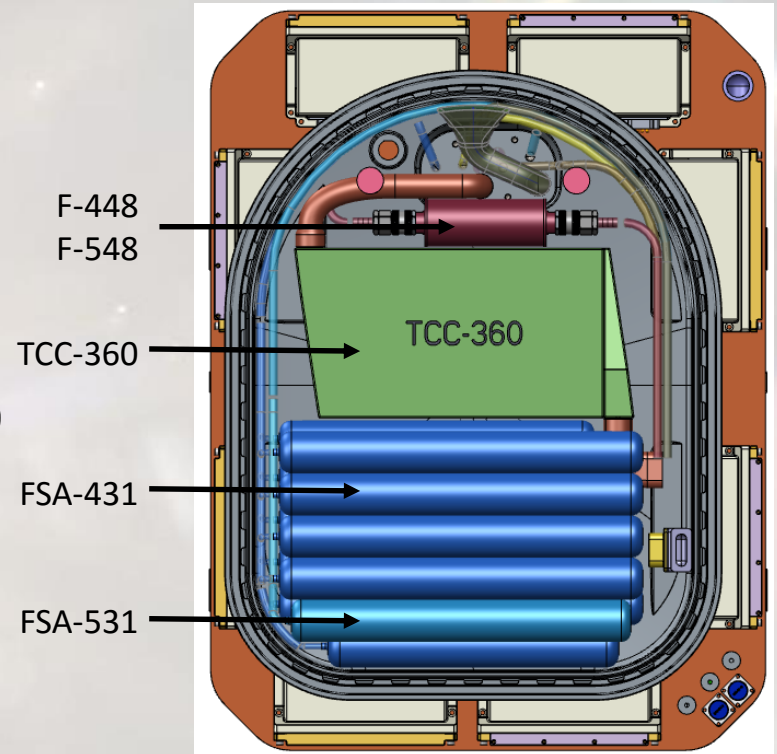
- Shape is based on Z-2 model
 - New hatch/cage shape and package in-work for xHUT
- Provides mounting location for speakers
- Acts as a secondary containment to mitigate the hazard of FSA rupture during charge
- While containing free water, must permit gas exchange to prevent hatch from becoming a pressure vessel
 - Gas Permeability requirement based on depress/repress rates
- Structural Load vs Deflection
 - Must tolerate crew loading without exhibiting excessive deflection



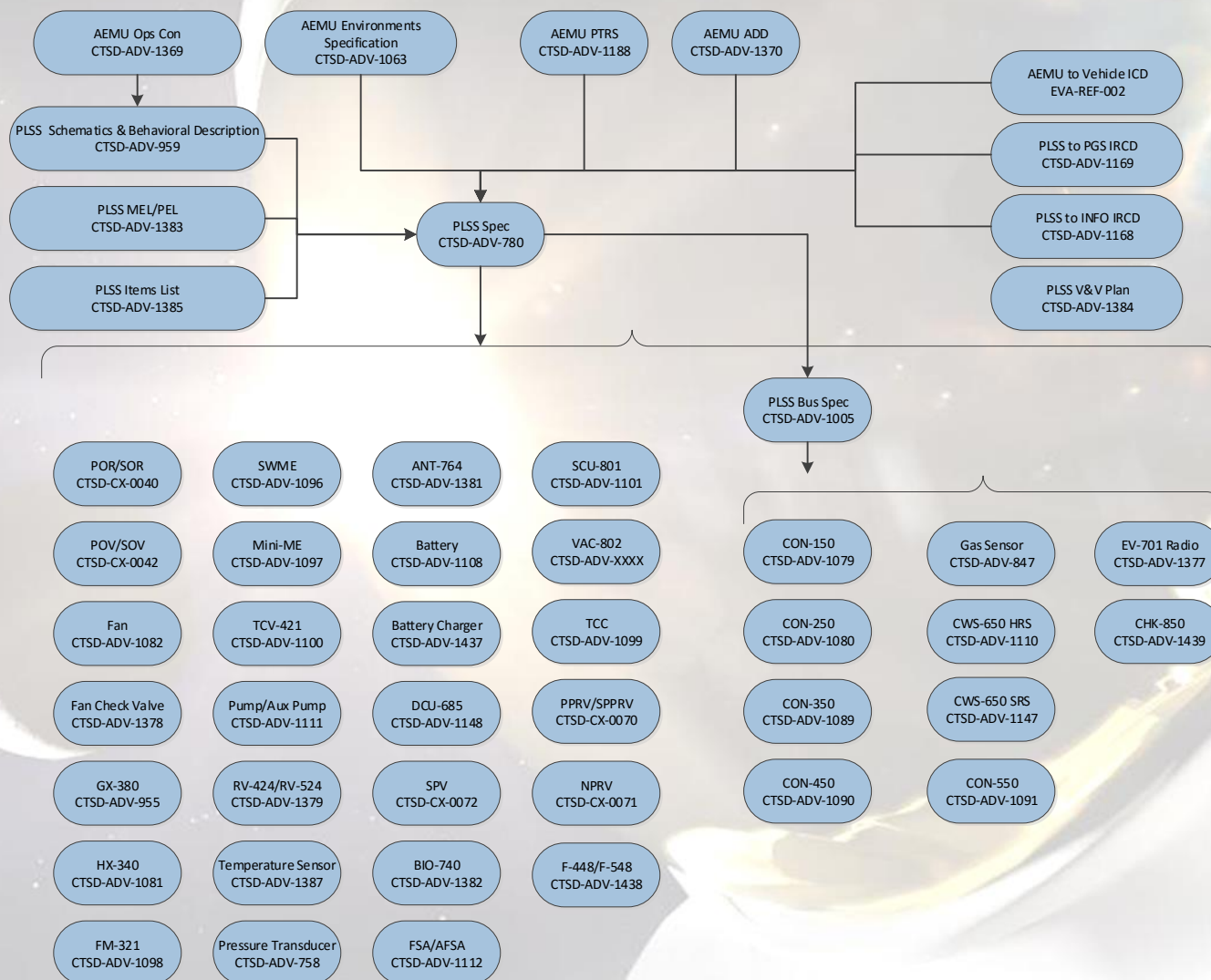
PLSS Logistical Items



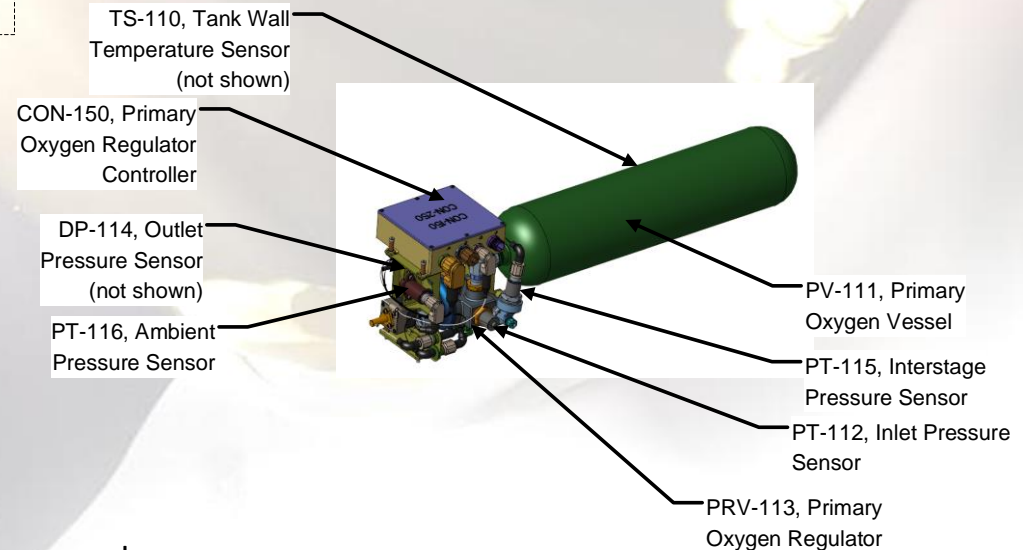
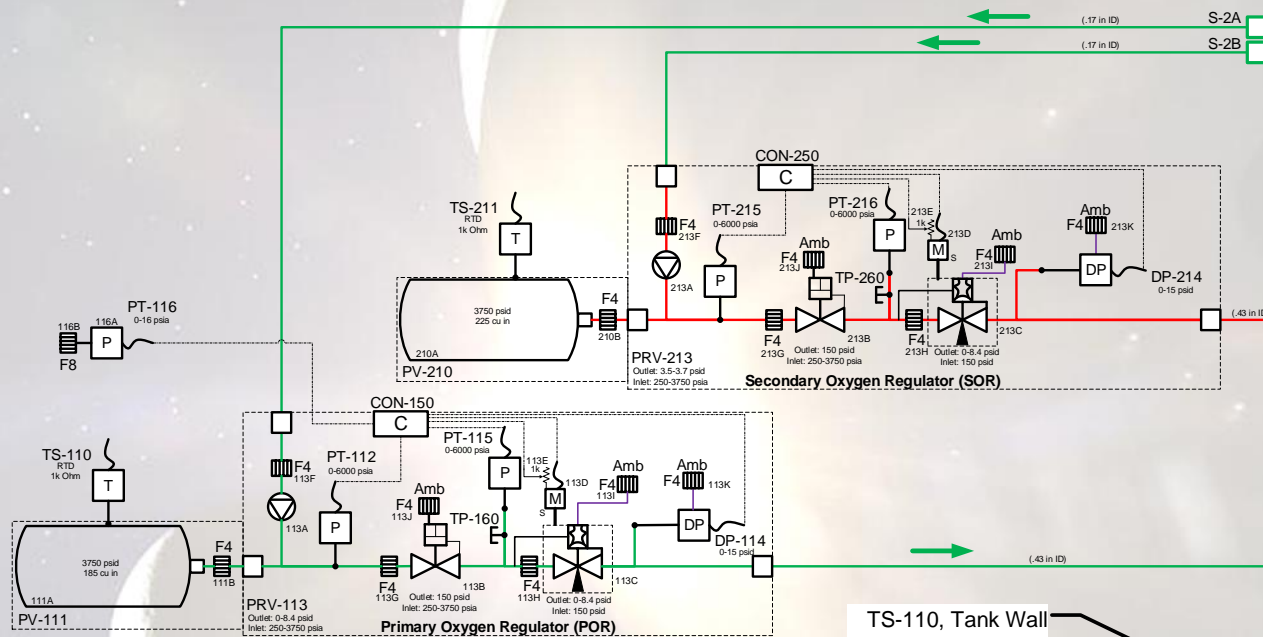
- Consumables located in hatch to enable inspection/change-out between EVAs without removal/opening PLSS
 - Trace Contaminant Control (TCC-360)
 - Thermal Loop Filters (F-448/F-548)
 - 25micron
 - Finest filter in respective thermal loops
 - Feedwater Supply Assemblies (FSA-431/FSA-531)
 - Primary/Auxiliary feedwater supply
- Cover sequesters any free-water within the hatch



xPLSS Requirements Documents

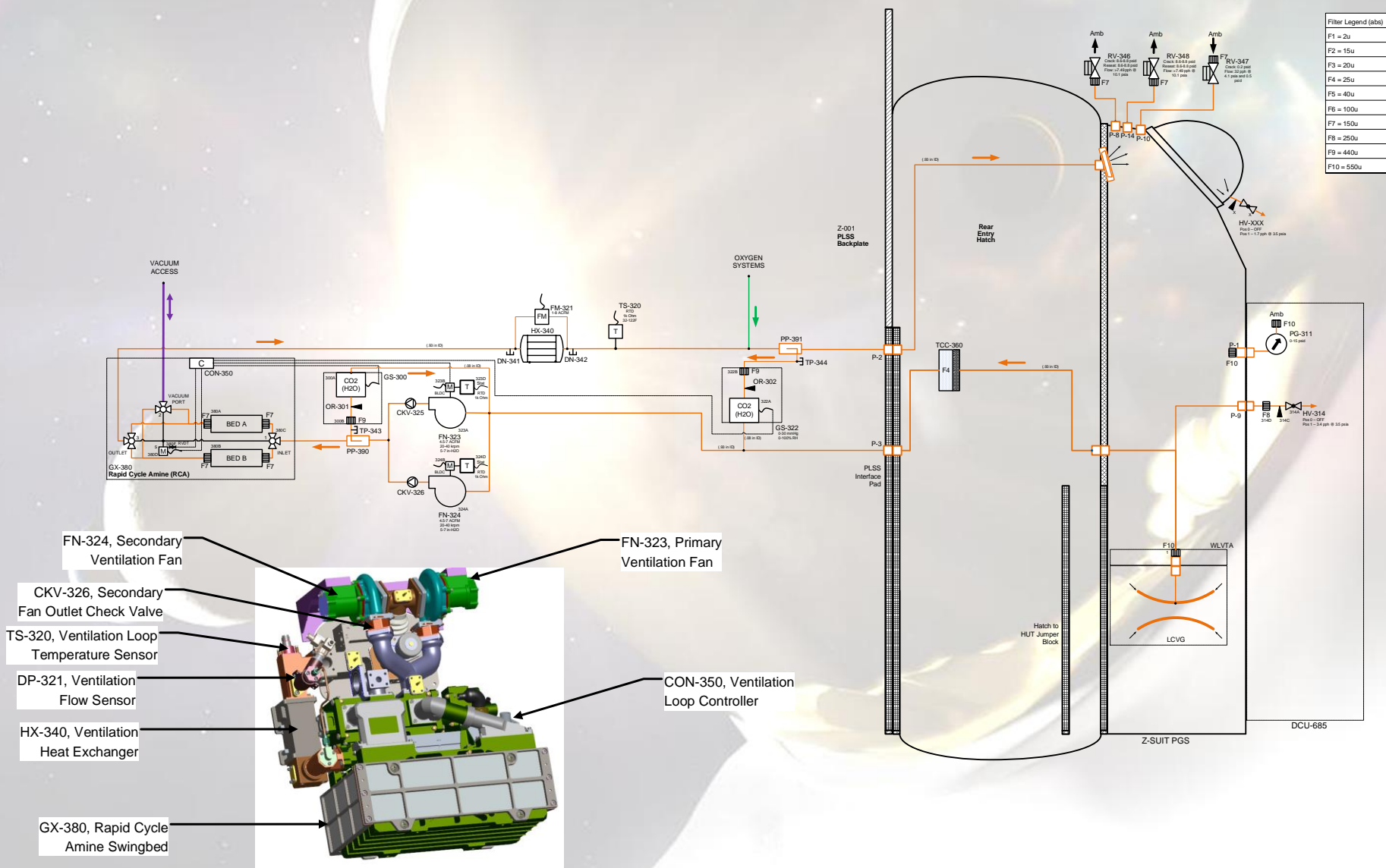


xPLSS – Primary/Secondary Oxygen Assembly

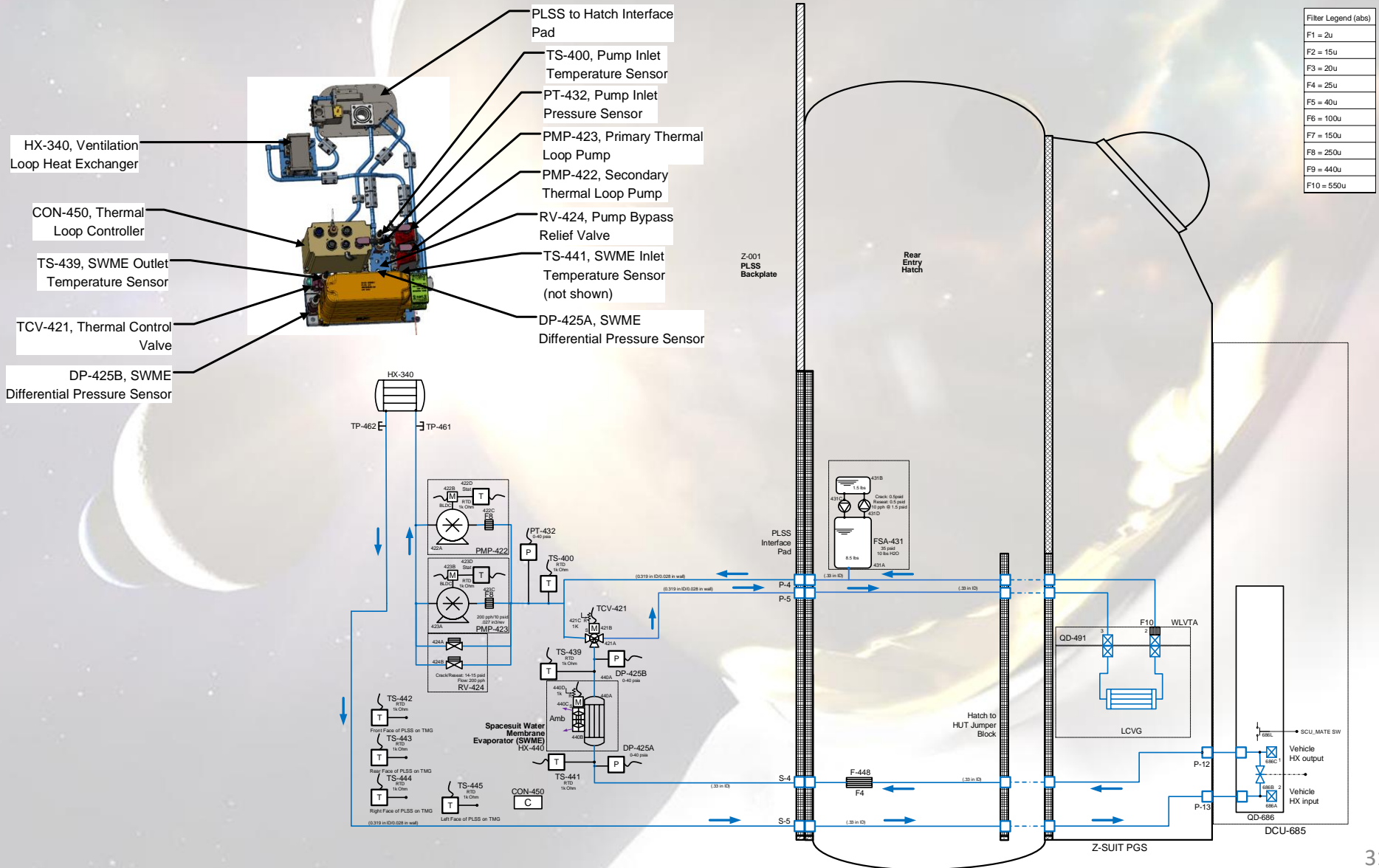


*SOA is the same with exception of PT-116 removal

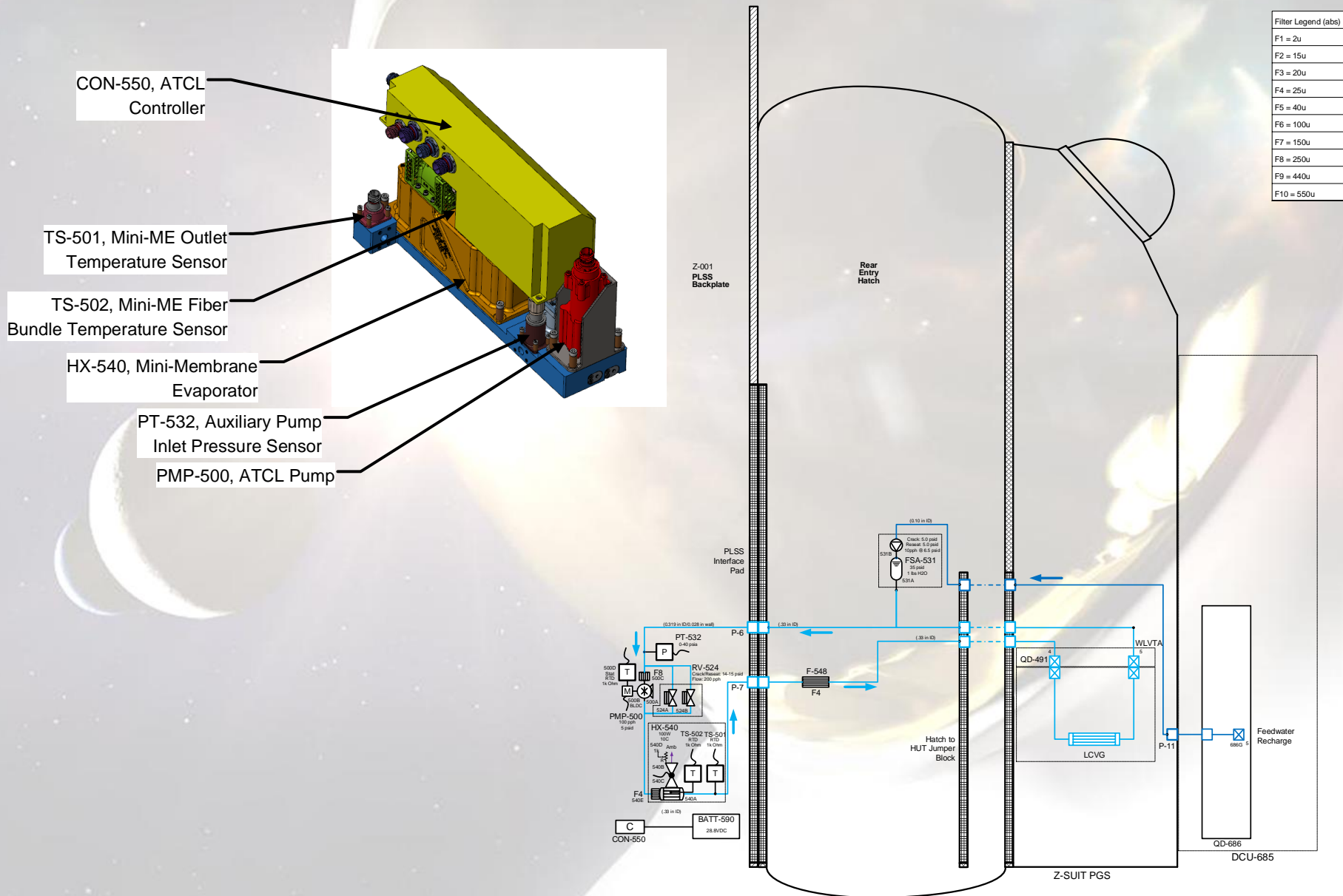
xPLSS – Ventilation Loop



xPLSS – Thermal Control Loop



xPLSS – Auxiliary Thermal Control Loop



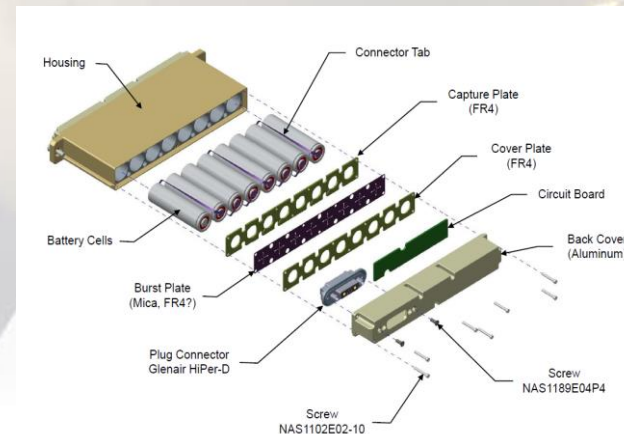
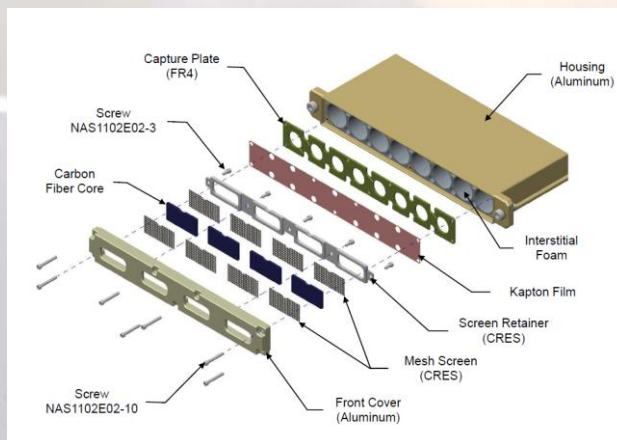
xPLSS – Power



- PLSS Power

- 28VDC from vehicle or internal battery power switched by CWS via commanding at the DCU
- Current limiting and monitoring for each attached load is provided by the CWS
- A common battery module (8S) is used to build-up all battery assemblies

Battery	Description	Nominal Voltage (VDC)	Location	Configuration	Capacity ⁽¹⁾ (Wh)	Load Criticality
BATT-590	Auxiliary Thermal Control Loop Battery	29.1	Inside PLSS volume	8S – 1P	95	Crit 1S
BATT-690	Primary PLSS Battery	29.1	Underside of PLSS backplate and PLSS volume	8S – 8P	756	Crit 1R
BATT-790	Accessory Battery	29.1	Inside PLSS volume	8S – 2P	189	Crit 3

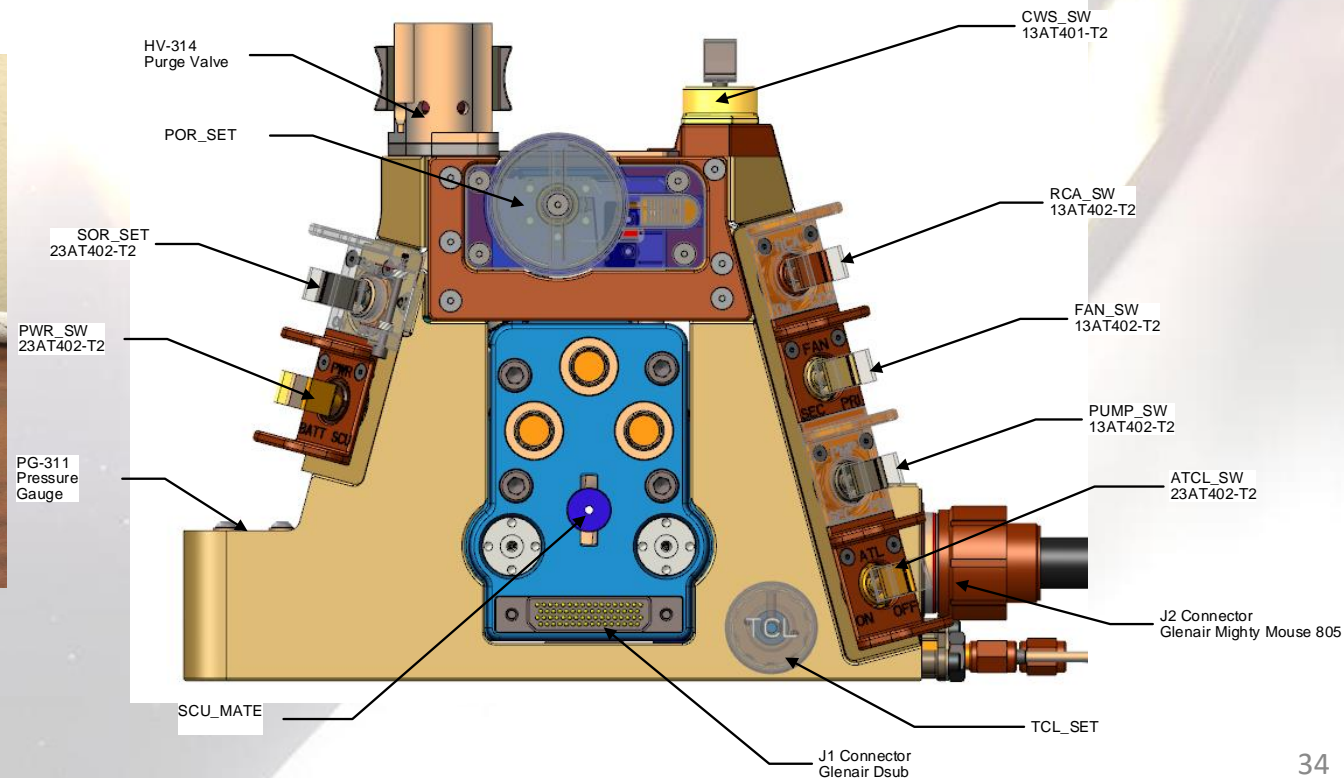


xPLSS – Commanding



- Crewmember Interface

- The Display and Control Unit (DCU-685) provides switching for all critical functions by direct access via gloved hands
- Commands for radio string, comm vol, CWS vol, and comm frequency are soft-menu items set via the CWS_SW



xPLSS – Control



- Control of PLSS functions is performed via five independent, modular controllers that are independently tied to the respective switch inputs on the DCU
 - CON-150: Primary Oxygen Regulator Controller
 - Accepts command input from POR_SET on DCU to set Primary Oxygen Regulator pressure to a limited range of predefined set-pressures (OFF, 0.4, 0.9, 4.3, 6.2, 8.2 psid)
 - When a pressure set-point is changed, the controller enables the actuator, moves the actuator counting steps and verifying against an integrated position sensor checking for faults
 - Local feedback is acquired from attached sensors
 - Telemetry is packaged and transmitted to the CWS over an LVDS link
 - CON-250: Secondary Oxygen Regulator Controller
 - Accepts command input from SOR_SET on DCU to set Secondary Oxygen Regulator to either ON/OFF which sets an output pressure of 3.5-3.7 psid or OFF
 - When a pressure set-point is changed, the controller enables the actuator, moves the actuator counting steps and verifying against an integrated position sensor checking for faults
 - Local feedback is acquired from attached sensors
 - Telemetry is packaged and transmitted to the CWS over an LVDS link



xPLSS – Control



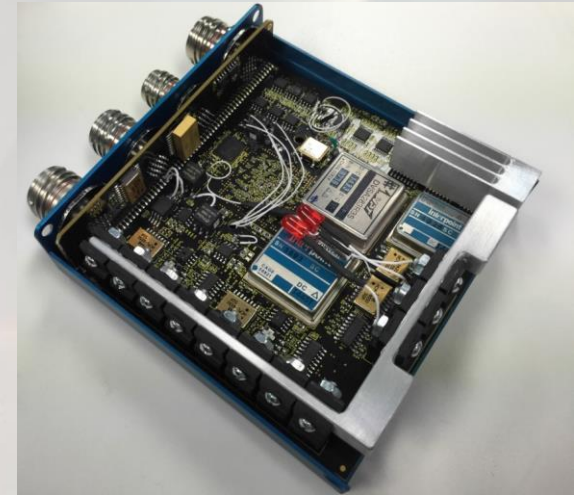
- CON-350: Ventilation Loop Controller
 - Accepts command input from FAN_SW and RCA_SW on DCU to set Fan to PRI/OFF/SEC or set RCA to TM/OFF/CO2 respectively
 - When FAN_SW is changed, the controller enables and commutates the BLDC fan motor selected at a fixed speed with HED feed-back
 - When RCA_SW is changed, the controller enables the stepper actuator on the RCA valve and drives the valve, counting steps to the next bed position checking against the integrated RVDT as position error checking
 - Local feedback is acquired from attached sensors
 - Telemetry is packaged and transmitted to the CWS over an LVDS link



xPLSS – Control



- CON-450: Thermal Loop Controller
 - Accepts command input from PUMP_SW, TCL_SET, and SCU_MATE to set Pump to PRI/OFF/SEC or set TCV-421 to a particular throttled position or set the controller mode based on the presence of the SCU respectively
 - When PUMP_SW is changed, the controller enables and commutates the BLDC pump motor selected at a fixed speed with HED feed-back
 - When TCL_SET is changed, the CON-450 responds by either directly changing the TCV position or engages Auto Cooling Control to automatically position the TCV
 - When the SCU_MATE detects the SCU presence, the CON-450 sets the SWME back-pressure valve to 10% open to enable degassing but no longer attempts to control the SWME outlet temperature as the vehicle heat exchanger is controlling the loop water temperature
 - Local feedback is acquired from attached sensors
 - Telemetry is packaged and transmitted to the CWS over an LVDS link

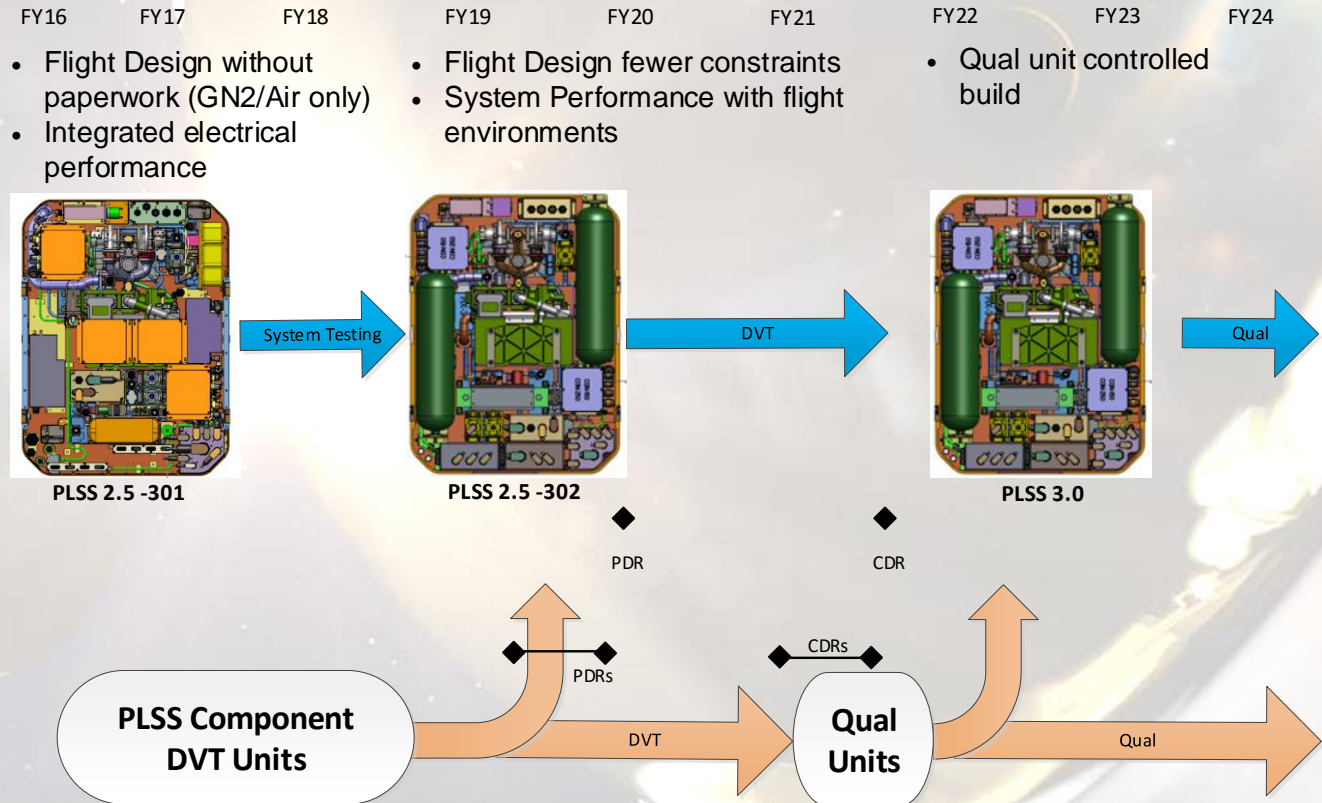


xPLSS – Control



- CON-550: Auxiliary Thermal Loop Controller
 - Accepts command input from ATCL_SW to set Pump to ON/OFF and set back-pressure valve on the HX-540 OPEN/CLOSED
 - When ATCL_SW is taken to “ON”, the CON-550 enables and commutates the PMP-500 BLDC motor at a fixed speed and takes the back-pressure valve on the HX-540 to full open
 - CON-550 has direct power input from BATT-590 which enables it to operate with the loss of the primary power rail from BATT-690
 - PMP-500 and HX-540 input power to the half-bridges and h-bridges are derived directly from BATT-590
 - Local feedback is acquired from attached sensors
 - Telemetry is packaged and transmitted to the CWS over an LVDS link but only while main power is present





Risk Items



- Component maturation
 - FM-321
 - Mass flow sensor not yet prototyped
 - CON-150/CON-250/CON-350
 - Controllers not yet prototyped with new architecture
 - HX-440/HX-540 (SWME and Mini-ME)
 - Bonding of polypropylene, cyclic loading, permissible pressure schedule, lot to lot materials and performance properties, sensitivity to contaminants
 - QD-686/886 (water and 3000 psi O2 QD)
 - Keeping mating loads manageable
 - Addressing contamination prevention or tolerance moving towards exploration
 - DCU-685 (and detail components)
 - Design is extremely compact with constraining functional requirements and several detailed custom components that need to be prototyped
 - EV-701 (UHF radio)
 - Design is complex and has not been fully prototyped in a packaged form
 - CWS-650 (Caution and Warnings)
 - Bread-board operating but a packaged prototype has not been developed
 - RV-346 (PPRV)
 - Prototypes have been fielded but presented stiction issues at dwell durations well short of the existing Item 146 on EMU Program
 - Need prototypes that can meet quiescent periods required for exploration 2-4 years
 - CKV-325/CKV-326 (fan outlet check valves)
 - In order to keep the pressure drop down the design is very constrained and needs to be prototyped and tested
 - GS-322/GS-300 (Multi-gas sensor)
 - The ISS EMU CO2 sensor replacement project is addressing this need presently to mitigate expiration of the current Item 122 CO2 sensor on the ISS EMU
 - BATT-690/BATT-590/BATT-790 and CHGR-840
 - Packaged prototypes for the battery modules demonstrating thermal runaway performance needs to be completed
 - Battery charger concept generated by AES/AMPS but need to develop a packaged unit that performs all of the required safety functions/tests
- Water quality for long term operations and quiescent periods
 - This has been a problem for long term systems such as the current ISS EMU requiring consistent maintenance attention to mitigate
 - The xEMU will face the same challenges but potentially with reduced maintenance access